



Co-operation Courage Respect Responsibility Resilience

"Learn and discover, care for each other"

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the end of a very busy term, I have the following news items to share:

The X-Factory

P7 pupils and staff have been working hard this term putting together their performance of The X Factory. On Tuesday P1-P7 enjoyed an afternoon performance in the high school's theatre along with some senior citizens from the community, with parents/carers and family coming along on Tuesday evening for a final wonderful performance.

Well done to every P7 pupil, all of whom developed a range of skills including preparing programmes, background sets and other props as well as learning lines.

Thank you to all of the P7 staff – Miss Holms, Mrs Witherspoon, Mrs Gifford, Mrs Strang – for their co-ordination of the play.

We were also very fortunate to benefit from some additional help from Balfron High staff: Mrs Shaw and Mr Spriggs; along with a former parent and pupil, Heather and Kirsty Stewart who taught some dance routines.

School Achievements

This term, pupils across our senior classes have been taking part in a variety of sporting competitions.

Last week, our P6 & P7 football team won the Killearn Garage Cup by finishing unbeaten and top in the league of local schools. The football squad was Charlie Anderson, Archie Kember, Brodie Malley, Marcus Kelly, Brody Tucker, Donnie Cant, Scott Muir, Henry Beale, Mason Beale, Lucy Harrower, Harrison Mather, Kayden Smeed and Maxwell Morris.

The following P7 pupils represented Balfron PS at a Stirling schools cross-country race in Dunblane – Connie Callander, Mollie Mackay, Carys Lengden, Millie Conway, Charlotte Stevenson, Charlie Anderson, Scott Muir, Brodie Malley, Henry Beale and Archie Kember. Qualifying to take part in the regional Falkirk round were Connie, Brodie and Charlie.

We also entered two lacrosse teams into the local schools competition, which was held at Balfron High earlier this month. Although we didn't manage to win any games, the following players represented our school with enthusiasm:

P6 – Martha Gormley, Ashley MacDonald, Emily MacDonald, Natalie Fraser, Calay More, Kayden Smeed, Harrison Mather.

P7 - Joel Watt, James Youens, Charlie Anderson, Sara Nicolson, Arabella McClelland, Chloe Wright.

Beatson Assembly

Following our Stalls from Home Day earlier this term, where groups of children raised money for charities of their own choice, one of the benefiting charities, Beatson Cancer presented at a whole school assembly last week, sharing details of the supports which they provide.

The following pupils received individual certificates of appreciation from Beatson Cancer for their fundraising efforts –

Edith Gormley, Martha Gormley, Violet Thomson, Joni Greig, Elouise Sutherland, Amber Leggate, Ashley McDonald, Emily McDonald, Natalie Fraser, Ella McTavish

Wider Pupil Achievements

Edie Dunn, P7 recently sang with the RSNO's Youth Chorus who performed a celebration of the names we give to birds, beasts and plants in James Burton's The Lost Words. The concert was performed in the Caird Hall, Dundee; Usher Hall, Edinburgh and Glasgow Royal Concert Hall.

Last week, Isla Valenti, P7 and her teammates from the Strathendrick Rugby Club Girls U12s travelled to Wales 'on tour' to take part in a tournament at Rumney RFC and attended the Women's Six Nations Wales v Scotland game. The girls all worked very hard raising funds and training to prepare for their trip.

Well done to both Edie and Isla for these excellent wider achievements.

Red Nose Day

Everyone who came to school dressed in a red nose theme for the annual fundraiser helped our school raised £233 – thank you to everyone who contributed.

Clubs

There have been a range of pupil lunch clubs taking place this term including
P6 & P7 craft – Miss McCarthy
P1-P7 Star Book – Miss Rennie
Lacrosse P6 & P7 - Mrs Witherspoon
Gymnastics P4 & P5 - Mrs Bradnam
P6 & P7 Cross-country - Miss Holms
Nursery – P7 S6 Sports Leaders

Active Stirling have continued to be fantastic partners with their co-ordination of other sporting experiences including whole class tasters and clubs including P5-P7 Netball and P4-P5 skateboarding, as well as the range of P5-P7 Health Hub activities arranged at the high school.

Next term the following lunch clubs offered to pupils will include –
P5 Recorders - Mrs Robertson
P4 Coding - Mrs Darroch

Parent Council

Our Parent Council are organising an Easter egg hunt in the playground for all classes on Thursday morning.

Parent Council have also agreed to pay £15 per pupil towards the cost of a class trip during the summer term. This very generous contribution means that only a small amount will require to be paid by parents/carers. The last couple of class trips are being organised and any variation in prices between classes is a result of destination and class size.

Open Morning

P5 are opening their class to parents/carers on Thursday 16th May 9:30am –10:25am to share some learning from their World War II context.

P1-P4 classes all enjoyed very well attended open class sessions earlier this term, while the three classes across P6-P7 shared their learning earlier in the year through their Christmas enterprise market.

Parents' Evening

Thank you to everyone who completed the questionnaires at our recent Parents Evening last week.

Using other self-evaluation information, the results from the parent questionnaires will be used to identify priorities for session 2024/2025.

Responses from the questionnaires will be shared in next month's newsletter.

Thank you also to our group of P4-P7 pupils who did an excellent job, distributing and encouraging the completion of the questionnaires –

P4 – Abi Allison, Aaron Hamill, Artur Korostylov, Helena Mandt, Finlay McTavish, Elouise Sutherland, Violet Thomson

P5 – Lily Brown, Patrick Dunn, Ker Gilbert, Jessica Henton, Harry Morgan

P6 – Martha Gormley, Ella McTavish, Barney Cousins

P7 – Miah Simmons, Edie Dunn, James Youens

Balfron Family Fun Run

The Balfron Primary Parent Council are excited to bring back the Balfron Family Fun Run on Sunday 28th April as part of the Balfron 10k Race festival. This was great fun last year and promises to be even better this year. The run is open to all ages and abilities - it would be great to see as many of our school kids and families participating as possible! The route starts at the High School and heads along Roman Road to the Dunmore St roundabout and back with a distance of around a mile (with options to turn back earlier for a shorter route). This is a run not a race but there will be some lovely spot prizes and goodies for all at the end. It's a great opportunity to take part in the race day atmosphere along the official route. Fancy dress encouraged! There will also be activities for the kids and for the first time, Balfron Primary Parent Council will be providing the tasty treats! Runners need to be at the start line for 10.00am to join in the fun. To participate, sign up online at www.entrycentral.com/balfron-fun-run. Entry is £2.50 and all funds raised will go towards the Primary School.

We need you!

In order for the Fun Run to go ahead, we are looking for some lovely, willing volunteers to help out on the day. We promise this will be an easy job, and more importantly, fun! We need volunteers for a number of jobs including set-up, marshalling, activity coordination and catering stall assistance. If you can help at all at any point between 8am and 1:30pm on Sunday 28th April, please get in touch with Rachel at rachelmoirern@gmail.com. We really need your help to make this a great event once again and without volunteers, we won't be able to go ahead. We would love to have you on board!

Footwear & Clothing Grants/Free School Meals Application Forms for Session 2024/25

Application forms to apply for the footwear & clothing grants/free school meals for pupils returning to school in August will be available online at the end of June 2024.

This is especially important for children starting school in August. If parents submit the application form that is currently available online this will be rejected and the parent advised to apply again at the end of June.

<https://www.stirling.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/free-school-meals-and-clothing-grant/>

School Lunch Menu

Facilities Management have decided to extend the menus from Easter until the start of the new term in August. The website will reflect this along with Cypad.

New menus will be in place for the start of the new term in August 2024.

Week 1

April 22nd

May 13th

June 3rd and 24th

July 15th

August 5th

Week 2

April 29th

May 20th

June 10th

July 1st and 22nd

Week 3

April 15th

May 6th and 27th

June 17th

July 8th and 29th

End of term

Term finishes for the whole school at the end of the day, on Thursday.

I hope that everyone has an enjoyable break over the Easter school holidays. On behalf of all the staff, I would like to thank all parents/carers for their continued support of the school and we look forward to seeing everyone again for the start of the summer term.

Yours sincerely



Angus Black
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary

March		
Thursday 28 th	End of term	3:15pm
Friday 29 th – Friday 12 th April	Spring Holiday	School closed to pupils and staff
April		
Monday 15 th	Summer Term starts	8:55am
Monday 15 th – Wednesday 17 th	P6 Bikeability 2	
Wednesday 17 th	P5 & P6 weekly swimming blocks begin	P6 9:15am P5 2:00pm
Thursday 18 th	P5 & P6 weekly swimming blocks begin	P6 9:15am P5 2:00pm
Thursday 18 th	P3 Trip to Amazonia	Full Day
Wednesday 24 th	Parent Council meeting	7:00pm
Friday 26 th	P4 & P5 Samba drumming afternoon	
Sunday 28 th	Family Fun Run – Balfon 10K Running Festival	10:00am
May		
Friday 3 rd	Staff Development Day	School closed to pupils
Monday 6 th	Local Holiday	School closed to pupils and staff
Thursday 9 th	P5 class trip to Glasgow Museums Resource Centre	Full Day
Friday 10 th	P4 Class Assembly	1:45pm
Thursday 16 th	P5 Open Morning	9.45am
Tuesday 21 st	P1 to P7 and Nursery	Class Photos
Monday 27 th	Nursery to P7 School Sports Day	9:30am – 12:00pm
Tuesday 28 th	P1 Transition – lunch hall visit to high school with	11:15am

	parents	
Tuesday 28 th	P7 – S1 transition – parent information evening	5:45pm
Wednesday 29 th	P4 class trip to Kelvingrove Art Gallery	Full Day
Friday 31 st	P2 Class Assembly	1:45pm
June		
Tuesday 4 th – Thursday 6 th	P7 transition days at Balforn High	
Wednesday 5 th	New P1 Induction Morning	9.30am-11.45am
Wednesday 5 th	New P1 Parent Presentation	9.45am
Friday 14 th	P1 Class Assembly	1:45pm
Friday 21 st	P1 & P2 class trip to Amazonia	Full Day
Tuesday 25 th	P7 Leavers' Assembly	1:45pm
Wednesday 26 th	Nursery Leavers Assembly	9:30am
Friday 28 th	End of term	12:45pm
August		
Monday 12 th – Tuesday 13 th	Staff Development Days	School closed to pupils
Wednesday 14 th	New Term	School open to pupils